

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

U.S. Mexico Border 2012

Texas, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas

Environmental Health

Regional Workgroup

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Meetings Held:

- o Laredo**
- o Matamoros**
- o Eagle Pass**
- o Reynosa**

Regional Demographics:

- o Population- 75,000 – 300,000 - Increase daily by 50,000 - 100,000**
- o All Sister Cities in Mexico are larger**
- o Age - 40-50% is less than 18 years old**
- o 40% of nations commerce' (Laredo)**
- o 11,000 Commercial trucks (Laredo)**

Pollution Sources

- o Water Pollution**
- o Air Contaminants**
- o Car Tire Problem**
- o Pesticides**
- o Warehouses (hazardous material)**
- o Railways**

Existing Health Problems

- o Access to Health Care, Health Professions Shortage Area, some don't have Community Hospital, >50%=Uninsured
- o Infectious Disease (TB, Hepatitis, Emerging and New— WNV, environmental contaminants)

Environmental Health Objectives

Objective 1----- Air

o **Objective 2----- Water**

o **Objective 3----- Pesticides**

o **Objectives 4--- Capacity Building**

AIR

Air monitoring systems

- o **Carbon monoxide, Nitrogen oxides, Sulphur dioxide, Ozone, PM**
- o **Air quality public information**
- o **Mandatory vehicle inspection**
- o **Modify Air emission policies**
- o **Environmental education**

Water

- o **Inadequate filtering, and treatment plants, Arsenic, Haloacetic acids, Trihalomethane**
- o **Sewage treatment and waste water re use**

Pesticides

- o Recognition of Pesticide Poisoning- Binational
- o Institutional Network
- o Scientific Research
- o Recycling
- o Promotion and Education

Capacity Building

- o **Environmental Health Academy**
- o **Post Graduate Education**
- o **Technological Challenge**

Associations with Various Groups:

**Public Health, SEDESOL, SAGARPA,
SEMARNAT, EPA, CCEPA, IBWC, NASA,
AFMES, etc.....**

Next Steps:

- o Disseminate Air Monitoring Information
- o Environmental and Outreach Education
- o Promote technology
- o Scientific Research
- o Advance Training
- o MOUs

Projects

- o Evaluation of Infrastructure Impacts on Rio Grande River Water Quality, \$45
- o Measure & Reduce Childhood Exposure to Pesticides in the TX/MX Border Region, \$29
- o Environmental Health Prevention and Control-\$70

Priorities FY05

- o **Gastrointestinal Illnesses Prevention**
- o **Reduce Pesticide Exposure**
- o **Binational Programs**
- o **Data Exchange**

Future Activities

- o Health Hazard Assessment**
- o Environmental Health Training**
- o Training Providers**
- o Risk and Cumulative Risk Analysis**
- o Partner with other agencies**